

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01626 121036Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /083 W
-----121047Z 034294 /15

O R 121003Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3625
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GERMANY
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENGLAND
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GERMANY
FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA
FOSIF ROTA SPAIN
COMSIXTHFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1626

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MILI, LE, IS, SY
SUBJECT: CEASE-FIRE IN SOUTH APPEARS IMMINENT

REF: BEIRUT 1605 (DTG 110958Z APR 77) (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: ARTILLERY FIRE BUT LITTLE GROUND MOVEMENT AT
MARJAYUN, WHICH CHRISTIANS STILL CONTRL. CEASE-FIRE WIDELY
EXPECTED MOMENTARILY. GENERAL KHOURY HOPES TO FIELD A
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NEUTRAL FORCE IN THE SOUTH WITHIN TWO WEEKS. END SUMMARY.

2. GROUND SITUATION. AS OF EARLY APR 12 WE UNDERSTAND FROM
LEBANESE ARMY SOURCES THAT CHRISTIAN LEBANESE FORCES STILL
CONTROL THE HEART OF THE MARJAYUN AREA. THERE ARE
INDICATIONS OF SOME GROUND FIGHTING APR 11. MUTUAL
ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENTS CONTINUE.

3. CEASE-FIRE TALK. ACCORDING TO THE IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, THE PLO HAS ANNOUNCED A CEASE-FIRE. ACCORDING TO THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF SOUTH LEBANON, HALIM FAYYAD, IT IS WIDELY EXPECTED AMONG VARIOUS ELEMENTS IN THE SOUTH THAT A CEASE-FIRE WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON. ACCORDING TO LEBANESE ARMY SOURCES, HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN LEBANESE ARMY REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PLO TO ARRANGE A CEASE-FIRE. THE LEB ARMY SOURCES UNDERSTAND THAT FATAH WILL NOT REPEAT NOT TRY TO TAKE MARJAYUN.

4. LEBANESE ARMY TO THE SOUTH? NEW LEBANESE ARMY COMMANDER VICTOR KHOURY TOLD DATT APR 11 THAT HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO FIELD A FORCE IN THE SOUTH TO OVERSEE A CEASE-FIRE WITHIN TWO WEEKS, RELYING HEAVILY ON THE MIXED CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM "VANGUARDS." HE SAID HOWEVER THAT THERE MUST FIRST BE A CEASE-FIRE AGREED TO AND EFFECTED BY THE TWO COMBATANT SIDES.

5. CHRISTIAN LEADERS ACCEPTING DEFEAT. AL BAYRAQ APR 12 REPORTS THAT BECHIR GEMAYEL WILL ACCOMPANY HIS FATHER PIERRE TO DAMASCUS APR 14. (COMMENT: UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE VISIT COULD ONLY BE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PATCHING UP BADLY STRAINED SYRIAN-KFUR FRONT RELATIONS.) TANZIM LEADER GEORGE ADWAN TOLD EMBOFF APR 11 THAT CAMILLE CHAMOUN SAID APRIL 9 THAT THE CHRISTIAN STRATEGY IN THE SOUTH HAD FAILED BECAUSE THE ISRAELIS HAD NOT LIVED UP TO THEIR PROMISE TO SUPPORT
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THE CHRISTIANS FULLY.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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